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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,710	08/31/2001	Il Gun Kwon	0465-0854P	8869
2292	7590	02/12/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			TRAN, TRANG U	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	3

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/942,710

Applicant(s)

KWON, IL GUN

Examiner

Trang U. Tran

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young et al. (US Patent No. 6,567,011 B1) in view of Wachter (US Patent No. 6,469,633 B1).

In considering claim 1, Young et al discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed a remote controller producing a remote code for controlling for its own use, a remote code for controlling peripheral media devices, and selection signals of external input sources in accordance with a user's selection is met by the remote control 1 (Figs. 1-4, col. 4, lines 24-56), 2) the claimed a receiver part receiving one of the remote codes from the remote controller is met by the receiver 20 (Fig. 1, col. 3, line 66 to col. 4, line 56), 3) the claimed a controller verifying that a present external input source corresponds to which one of the peripheral media devices and produces a code conversion control signal and an output control signal is met by the receiver device 20 which configured to receive a selected input signal wherein the selected input signal from one of the input devices 30 and 40 (Fig. 1, col. 6, line 66 to col. 7, line 21), 4) the claimed memory storing code conversion data is met by the input-select-table which is loading the ID code provides the remote with information to control that particular device

(Figs. 1 and 5, col. 5, line 25 to col. 8, line 8), and 5) the claimed code converter converting the code into a code corresponding to the verified peripheral media device using the code conversion data stored in the memory by responding to the code conversion control signal, the code converter outputting the converted code to the verified peripheral media device through the communication port by responding to the output control signal is met by the remote control 100 which is outputting the ID code verification state (col. 9, lines 3-40).

However, Young et al explicitly do not disclose the claimed a communication port to be connected with the peripheral media devices through a communication line.

Wachter teaches that the CPU 2 is coupled via serial cable 6 from the serial port of the CPU2 and the input of IR transceiver 7, the IR transceiver 7 had, in the prototype, 4 dual IR emitters, but in general must be capable of controlling a suitable number of IR emitters 8 selected according to the design of the overall system, and coupled to RCEs via IR cable 9 (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 53-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the serial port as taught by Wachter into Young et al's system in order to provide a control system for controlling multiple electronic components via a single user-operated remote control device.

In considering claim 2, the claimed wherein the media device and peripheral media devices include TV receiver, DVD, video-cassette recorder, and set-top box is met by the media system 10 (Figs. 1 and 8, col. 3, line 66 to col. 4, line 23 and col. 6, lines 5-22) of Young et al.

In considering claim 3, the claimed wherein the communication port is one of RS232C, 12C, and parallel port is met by col. 6, lines 49-63 of Wachter.

In considering claim 4, the claimed wherein the media device further comprises a display part displaying a menu of the media device's own, a menu of the verified peripheral media device, and an operation status of the controller by responding to the code of the remote controller is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34) of Wachter.

In considering claim 5, the claimed wherein the remote controller includes keys for selecting the external input sources corresponding to the peripheral media devices enabling to be connected to the media device is met by the remote control 1 (Figs. 1-4, col. 4, lines 24-56) of Young et al.

In considering claim 6, the claimed wherein the peripheral media devices includes communication ports identical to the communication port so as to establish communication channels with the media device is met by the serial port of the CPU 2 (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 53-67 and col. 6, lines 49-63 of Wachter).

Claim 7 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 1.

In considering claim 8, the claimed further comprising the step of displaying on a screen whether the media device and the peripheral media device corresponding to the present external input source mode are connected to each other is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34) of Wachter.

In considering claim 9, the claimed further comprising the step of displaying character and video signals from the peripheral media device corresponding to the

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present external input source mode on a screen of the media device in accordance with the remote code is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34) of Wachter.

In considering claim 10, the claimed further comprising the steps of: processing the code to operate the media device itself when the peripheral media device corresponding to the present external input source mode fails to be connected to the media device or the present external input source mode corresponds to the media device itself; and operating the media device in accordance with a command corresponding to the processed code is met by the customized default device ID code (col. 9, line 8 to col. 10, line 60) of Young et al.

In considering claim 11, the claimed wherein information of the code processed by the media device itself includes volume adjustment of the media device and change of the present external input source mode is met by the volume of the receiver 20 may be adjusted or the first means may also be used to alter the system mode to other desired modes (Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 35-56) of Young et al.

Claim 12 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 2.

In considering claim 13, the claimed further comprising the steps of: executing a command corresponding to the converted code in the peripheral media device corresponding to the present external input source mode is met by the input-select-table which is loading the ID code provides the remote with information to control that particular device (Figs. 1 and 5, col. 5, line 25 to col. 8, line 8) of Young et al, 2) the claimed transferring an execution result from the peripheral media device corresponding

to the present external input source mode to the media device is met by the remote control 100 which is outputting the ID code verification state (col. 9, lines 3-40) of Young et al, and 3) the claimed displaying an image according to the execution result on a screen and outputting a voice according to the execution result through a speaker of the media device is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34) of Wachter.

In considering claim 14, the claimed further comprising the step of providing a communication channel set-on or set-off signal from the remote controller to the media device by a user's selection so as to turning on or off a mode for establishing communication channels between the media device and the peripheral media devices is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34) of Wachter.

In considering claim 15, the claimed wherein the communication channel set-on signal is provided when the peripheral media devices have the same communication ports of the media device on an on-screen display menu of the media device from the remote controller by a user and wherein the communication channel set-off signal is provided when the peripheral media devices fail to have the same communication ports of the media device on an on-screen display menu of the media device from the remote controller by a user is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34) of Wachter.

Claim 16 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 3.

In considering claim 17, Wachter discloses all the claimed subject matter, note 1) the claimed further comprising the steps of: monitoring whether a code to change the present external input source mode into a new external input source mode is produced from the remote controller is met by the user selects which task to perform by looking at the monitor 4 and manipulating a single remote control in one hand (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34), and 2) the claimed relieving the established communication channel between the present external input source and the media device and establishing a new communication channel between the new external input source and the media device is met by the graphical user interface (Figs. 5-9, col. 5, line 38 to col. 7, line 34).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sato (US Patent No. 6,526,579 B2) discloses internet downloaded programmable remote control for registered devices.

Isobe et al. (US Patent No. 6,469,751 B1) disclose remote control device and computer readable recording medium for recording a remote control program.

Mankovitz (US Patent No. 6,549,719 B2) discloses television program record scheduling and satellite receiver control using compressed codes.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trang U. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-0090. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM, Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TT TT
February 8, 2004


MICHAEL H. LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER